| (1) | (2) | (3) |
|---|---|---|
| 3. | Import of ammunition from M/s. Pitcare, Hongkong; | A preliminary inquiry by the CBI is in progress. |
| 4. | Contract concluded with M/s. Bofors, Sweden for procurement of 155 mm FH77B Gun System, ammunition and associated items; | The CBI has filed charge sheet and supplementary charge sheet against the accused persons. The CBI is continuing investigation. |
| 5. | Procurement of Weapons Locating Radar; | The CBI's report has been sent to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) for advice. |
| 6. | Irregular procurement of 'crucibles' in the Eastern Naval Command; | The CBI is progressing the case in the designated court at Vishakapatnam. |
| 7. | Irregularities in the procurement of developed items in the Eastern Navel Command; | No report has been submitted by the CBI, so far. |
| 8. | Inquiry into the circumstances under which delivery period extension for procurement through Ship Chandelier were given by material organisation, Vishakapatnam from December 1994 onward. | The CBI inquiry is in progress. |
| 9. | Case of local purchase at NSD, Port Blair in the Eastern Naval Command. | The CBI inquiry is in progress. |

As a step towards avoiding irregularities in Defence Deals in future, the Government have issued orders, in consultation with Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) for mandatory and time-bound scrutiny of all major procurements/purchase decisions, involving cost of above Rs. 75 Crores, by the C&AG and where necessary by the CVC.

**Underwater retrieval device**

2718. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item in the Indian Express dated the 16th December, 2000 wherein it

was reported that an Andhra Pradesh Marine Scientist has developed a new underwater retrieval device which can be useful in retrieving/lifting things upto 40 kgs. and can be used by submarines;

(b) if so, whether concerned Departments of Government have been advised to made use of this device; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Post-retirement employment restrictions on Defence Officers**

2719. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the post-retirement employment restrictions on the senior officers of the defence services;

(b) whether it is a fact that retired officers are employed as consultants, agents and representatives of the foreign companies supplying defence equipment to the country;

(c) if so, the names of such officers and companies employing them; and

(d) whether national interests are not affected by their employment with such companies?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) A statement is enclosed (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Since 1989, the Government has banned the involvement of agents and middlemen in the purchase of weapons and weapon systems. As per the existing instructions, the seller is required to certify in the contract itself that it has not employed any agents or middlemen. It has been stipulated that in case it is found otherwise, the contract is liable for cancellation. The seller is